

319 GRADUATED

The year 1978 brought a cold, windy, rainy Saturday, May 6, but for 319 Avila seniors it also brought the realization of a long sought-after goal. Families gathered in Goppert Theatre to watch their sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, and husbands and wives receive their diplomas. For the first time ever Avila College moved its commencement exercises inside. But even the weather couldn't dampen the excitement that accompanies graduation day.

Dr. C. Larry Sullivan, Chairman of the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics welcomed the graduates and their families then G. Richard Scott, Academic Dean, and Sister Olive Louise, President, presented diplomas to the graduates.

The commencement address was delivered by Thomas J. Higgins, Principal Regional Director of Health, Education and Welfare, Region VII. During his speech, "The Promise of Enlightenment," he spoke of the political changes that have occurred in the "me" decade of the 70's.

"We are less inclined to see ourselves as part of a community whose significance transcends the importance of individuals", Higgins said.

For the future there are two responses. One is to play one's part. Higgins continued, "it is admittedly easier to retreat to a specialist rather than a generalist role." However, he challenged his audience to choose the other response, to choose "mission" over "maintenance" and in doing so "embrace a life worth living." A mission "to never cease asking the hard questions of ourselves and others. Who are we? Why are we here?" A mission to be an informed electorate to strengthen democracy. A mission we must be dedicated to.

In closing, Higgins spoke of optimism for our future . . . "for this is the Promise of Enlightenment. That you, and tens of thousands like you, will take up the challenge of your education. That you will never cease to enrich your knowledge" and equally as important "you will use your knowledge to contribute to the well being of the community."



GRADUATES HONORED

The annual Honors Convocation, held graduation morning in Goppert Theatre, began as the nursing and medical technology graduates received their pins during the traditional ceremony. Many others were honored for their academic excellence, leadership and service to the college.

The Avila Medal of Honor was presented to Chris Herring, student body president, and Brenda Kern, a nursing graduate active in the Avila and Missouri Student Nurse Organization. Brenda also received the Ariston Award, voted by her classmates as the outstanding senior for her "leadership and enthusiasm in all phases of campus activity."

The Medal of Honor was also awarded to Sister Una Marie, for her service as Avila's librarian, and Genny Lambert, an Administrative Assistant in the Education Department for 10 years.

Recognition was also given to winners of departmental awards and inductees in honor societies.

Kappa Gamma Pi, a national Catholic honorary for women, honored Lisa Slutter and Nancy Siebolt. Four students, William Helling, Diane Kreig, Martin Merritt and Lisa Slutter, were recognized by Delta Epsilon Sigma, a national scholastic honorary for students attending Catholic colleges.

AVILA REACCREDITATION APPROVED

The North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has formally approved a ten-year reaccreditation for Avila College and has approved the graduate programs in Business, Education and Psychology.

Sister Olive Louise, Academic Dean G. Richard Scott and Sister Marie Georgette, campus coordinator for the North Central Review, met with the Review Committee on July 22 in Chicago. The final approval was confirmed in a phone call to Sister Olive Louise on July 25.

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During the Honors Convocation three members of the Board of Trustees and three faculty members were recognized for 10 years of service to Avila College. (l to r) Sister Barbara Ann Moore, Associate Professor of Nursing; Dona K. Neuman, Chairperson of the Department of Social Sciences; Barbara Myers, Assistant Professor of Education; Alfred J. Balsco, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; and board members Norman P. Gordon and Edward A. Thornhill. Sister Olive Louise read the citations and presented the awards.

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NEW COUNSELORS CHOSEN

The Avila College Board of Counselors has elected a new chairman and added 5 new members.

John J. Fallon, a Kansas City attorney, has been chosen as the new chairman, succeeding Ed Thornhill. Fallon, formerly the Vice-Chairman, is a consultant for the National Council of Catholic Men and a Trustee of the Missouri Council on Economic Education. He is a past president of the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and was voted the Notre Dame Man-of-the-Year in 1968. Newly elected members are Russell Ewert, Thomas Gordon, John David Franklin, Thomas McGee and Mary McDonough.

Mary McDonough is the Special Assistant to the Executive Director of the American Nurses Association. She has been an administrator at hospitals in Indiana and California. She was a cum laude graduate of Catholic University of America with a B.S. in Nursing Education and M.S. in Hospital Administration.

Thomas F. Gordon received his Bachelor Degree from Notre Dame and attended the University of Missouri (J.D.) and U.M.K.C. (L.L.M.) law schools. He is a partner in the law firm Gordon,

Adams & Gordon.

David Franklin is a CPA with his own firm in Overland Park. He received a Business Administration Degree from Southern Illinois University and is a graduate of the American Institute of Banking. Previously David was the Controller of Johnson County Community College.

Russell Ewert is Vice-President and manager of The First National Bank of Chicago. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Minnesota and has held faculty positions at five colleges including the University of Minnesota and the American Institute of Banking. His wife, Marilyn, received her B.S. in Nursing from Avila.

Thomas R. McGee, Director of Investments, Vice-President and Treasurer of The Old American Insurance Company, received his B.S. in Economics from Georgetown University. He was a Trustee of Barstow School for 11 years and is currently on the Board of the Commerce Bank of Kansas City.

Avila welcomes these new members of the Board of Counselors.

CONDOLENCES

Our sincerest condolences to Dorothy Whitfield on the death of her brother, Paul, on June 29, 1978 in Leon, Iowa.

Our prayers are also with the William and Janice Neenan Clarkson ('46) and Don Clarkson families in the passing of their mother and grandmother, Mary Clarkson. Mary was a co-founder of the Scholarship Sponsors, a former member of the Board of Counselors and a recipient of the Avila Medal of Honor in 1962.

FALL SEMESTER REGISTRATION

Avila College will begin the 1978-79 academic year with the beginning of classes on Monday, August 28. Registration will be held August 22 and 23 for part-time students. Full-time students will register on August 25.

According to Don Madelung, Director of Admissions, Avila expects the largest freshman class in its history.

Information about the admissions procedure or the registration process is available through the Admissions or Registrar's Office.



Above right, John J. Fallon, new Chairman of the Board of Counselors. Above left, Thomas Gordon and left, Russell Ewert, Thomas McGee, Mary McDonough and David Franklin, new members of the Board of Counselors.